



AFCEA

Central Maryland Chapter – Education Foundation
ATTN: AFCEA Scholarships, P.O. Box 908, Savage, MD 20763
scholarships@centralmd.afceachapters.org

2021-2022 STEM Scholarship Award

Who: This scholarship is for graduating high school seniors who want to pursue a STEM education followed by a career in Defense, Intelligence Community, or Homeland Security.

What: Each scholarship is an award of \$10,000, \$2,500 for each year of a four-year academic education. This scholarship can be used to achieve education goals at the accredited school of their choice anywhere in the nation. All Merit Scholarships are STEM based. This is for a full-time student attending a four-year institution. Multiple STEM scholarships are available.

Note: AFCEA CMD expects any student recipient of an AFCEA scholarship who also receives a full-ride scholarship to the school of their choice to let AFCEA know and to return their AFCEA scholarship for another applicant.

Criteria: Applicants must:

- Be an academically-competitive, well-rounded, graduating high school senior.
- Attend a public or private high school in Baltimore City or one of the following Central Maryland counties: Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Howard, or northern Prince George's.
- Be a U.S. Citizen.
- Plan to enter a field of study supportive of national defense (i.e., systems engineering; software engineering; math; cyber; information technology; electrical engineering; computer engineering; computer science; physics; mechanical engineering; materials science; or engineering relating to IT, communications, or electronics) and can apply their studies directly to the Intelligence Community, homeland security, or national defense objectives. **Please note: If you plan to pursue a degree in other sciences to include medicine (pre-med or nursing), law or pre-law, biology, environmental, or any form of engineering not listed above, you are unlikely to be considered for this scholarship.** If unsure, please email scholarships@centralmd.afceachapters.org to clarify.
- Stay in a field of study supportive of national defense for the applicant's education and graduate.
- Available STEM scholarships include:
 - Skinner, Sheahan, Cotter – Specific geographic boundaries and fields of study apply. See detailed description.
 - Women in Technology – for a graduating senior female.
 - Berganski – for a graduating senior female pursuing a cyber career. Essays should address cyber.
 - Cyber Studies – for graduating senior students who are interested in pursuing career goals in cyber. Essays should address cyber.
 - Future Minority Leaders – for a graduating senior minority student (may be used at a community college as well)
 - Freedom – for a graduating senior student who has experienced a hardship or adversity to themselves or their family. Essays should address this.

More detailed information about these scholarships is included with this flyer or is available at this link: [STEM Scholarships | Central Maryland \(afceachapters.org\)](https://www.afceachapters.org). The application asks applicants to choose up to three scholarships for which they would like to be considered. However, the Scholarship Evaluation Committee reserves the right to award any of these scholarships to those most deserving.

Maintenance: Scholarship recipients must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA for the duration of their education (see descriptions) to retain the scholarship. Recipients may change majors provided the new major is a science and engineering field of study supportive of national defense as indicated above. Recipient must submit a transcript for review at the end of each school year with a status form (to be sent

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All interested students must submit their completed applications online by **December 20, 2021**.



to the recipient in June) to report how their studies are progressing to be eligible to receive the next payment as the scholarship is paid out the life of your undergraduate education.

Ceremonies: Scholarship recipients will be notified in late February/early March, 2022. The AFCEA Central Maryland Chapter will invite recipients and their parents to an Awards Night event honoring them in early May, 2022.

Application: Student scholarship submissions must include **all** of the following items: (Applicants will receive email from the Scholarship Committee chair as materials are received. If applicant does not get an email, reach out to the email address above.)

1. A completed application form **submitted online** at <https://centralmd.afceachapters.org/scholarship-application> which includes **general information** about the applicant. (Sample application details the info to be submitted.)
2. **Essay Section:** Please answer each of the six short essays to help the evaluators understand more about who you are. Please note that some questions have multiple parts. (You must respond to all parts of each question.)
 - A. Three of the most important traits to having a successful STEM career are creativity, determination, and an ability to apply the scientific method to solve real world problems. Explain how you have demonstrated these traits in your academic and/or extra-curricular activities. (up to 300 words)
 - B. Why are you pursuing a STEM education? (up to 200 words)
 - C. 1. What is your ideal job after graduation? 2. Why? (up to 200 words)
 - D. 1. Given all of the career choices you may have to work outside of Defense, Intelligence Community, or Homeland Security, what is it that specifically motivates you to pursue a job within Defense, Intelligence Community, or Homeland Security? 2. How do you see yourself supporting the Defense, Intelligence Community, or Homeland Security? (up to 300 words)
 - E. How would you use expansion of diversity, equity, and inclusion to confront problems in national security? (up to 200 words)
 - F. Why are you deserving of this scholarship? Please address how you meet the unique qualifications of the 1-3 scholarships you have selected (e.g., cyber requirements, hardship/adversity requirements, etc). (up to 200 words per scholarship)
3. A **resume** detailing, at a minimum, the applicant's accomplishments, work experience, and community involvement. (Submit with on-line application).
4. An **official, certified high school transcript** of completed courses and grades mailed **directly** from the high school to the address above or **emailed directly from the high school** to scholarships@centralmd.afceachapters.org. Transcripts sent by the applicant will not be accepted.
5. **Test scores:** SAT or ACT scores from the testing center. AFCEA Central Maryland is not listed as a site that scores can be sent to, so you will have to scan the report you receive and email it to scholarships@centralmd.afceachapters.org or mail to the P.O. Box address above. **Be sure that the report has your full name on it.**
6. **Two letters of recommendation:** one letter must be from an academic person (i.e., a school official – teacher, principal) and the second letter must be from a non-academic person (i.e., a person outside of school – clergy, a person you work/intern for, a volunteer leader, a coach). **Letters from school counselors are not acceptable.** Letters should be specific to this scholarship and not be letters that are for entry to a university or college. Letters may be emailed to scholarships@centralmd.afceachapters.org. Please be sure to follow up with the persons who are emailing letters of recommendation to ensure that they have submitted them. The applicant should not email letters of recommendation.

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